

the Overtimes

News for the People in Montgomery County Government

September/October 2000



Cpl. Donna Mathers delivers her (almost) daily shipment of packages to the Rockville post office for her "adopted" platoon members stationed in Kosovo.

Security Officer Supports U.S. Soldiers

Donna Mathers, Security Shift Supervisor in the Executive Office Building, spends much of her free time serving as "platoon mom" to deployed U.S. soldiers serving in Kosovo. Mathers became involved in the AdoptaPlatoon program two years ago as a supporter, and this past spring was appointed a "platoon mom" with her own platoon of 23 MP soldiers.

As an avid supporter of our military troops for more than 30 years, Mathers says this experience is by far the most gratifying. "My brother served in Vietnam with the Marines in the late 60s, and ever since that time I have tried to support our troops in any way I can," said Mathers. "For years I've sent holiday greetings at Christmas time through the 'Dear Abbey' program to troops stationed overseas."

The AdoptaPlatoon Soldier Support Effort is a non-profit organization managed by mothers dedicated to the deployed soldiers serving our country. Participants in this program send care packages, cards

and letters to their assigned platoon members on a regular basis. "It's amazing how many of these soldiers never receive any mail or packages from home," said Mathers. "Filling that void in their lives is the most rewarding thing I have ever done. I can't begin to describe the feeling of satisfaction I get from this program."

Mathers looks forward to someday meeting some of her adopted platoon members. "As a 'supporter' I've met two of my POC's (point of contact) upon their return from Bosnia and Kosovo, and I have an invitation to fly to Germany to welcome home my platoon when they return from Kosovo."

Mathers started her career with the County in 1972 as a Police Services Aide and has worked as a security officer since 1978.

Anyone interested in learning more about the program can contact Mathers at 240-777-6166 or email her at: PlatoonMomDonna@aol.com.

14TH Annual Community Service Day

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 28 and plan on participating in this year's annual Community Service Day activities.

This one-day event provides valuable assistance to various agencies and non-profit organizations.

How can you or your group get involved? Your group can participate by organizing its own project or by being matched with one of many projects registered with the Montgomery County Volunteer Center. Staff at the Volunteer Center are available to help you work out the details.

Jump start Community Service Day with a rally beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Executive Office Building cafeteria, and enjoy a continental breakfast, speakers, and entertainment. Most of the projects will begin around 10 a.m. and end at approximately 2 p.m.

Also available at the rally will be an opportunity to donate blood to the Red Cross, have your blood typed for the NIH Bone Marrow drive, visit the Humane Society Mobile Unit, practice using a voting machine, get information from the League of Women Voters regarding the upcoming election, and take an opportunity to create a children's craft for the Children's Inn at NIH.

For more information call the Volunteer Center at 240-777-2600.



Fall Back
Sunday,
October 29

In Memoriam

Hollis Williams, 51, Division of Consumer Affairs, passed away suddenly on July 13. Williams had been an investigator with Consumer Affairs since 1975. During his career with the County, he received numerous awards and certificates from the business community for his work.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Rebecca.



Iris Williams, community health nurse with the Department of Health and Human Services, passed away on June 5.

Williams spent most of her 22 years with the County, working in the Tuberculosis Control, Refugee and Migrant Health Program.



Gordon Wilson, Division of Solid Waste Services, passed away on July 9 from complications of cancer.

Wilson, 55, was a refuse disposal cashier and had worked in Solid Waste Services for more than 28 years.

He is survived by his wife Della and two sons.



Retired employee Gladys Settle Benson, 95, passed away on June 15.

Benson worked as a social worker for 37 years for the County's Welfare department. When she retired in 1971, she was an adoptions supervisor in the Child Welfare Division.

At the time of her retirement, she had the longest service of any department employee.

the Overtimes

is published bimonthly by the Montgomery County Government, Office of Public Information, 4th Floor, Executive Office Building.

Sue Tucker, Editor
240/777-6530

Overheard On the Elevator

Congratulations to **SEAQUETT WILLIAMS**, Human Relations Commission, who was recently elected vice-president of the Mothers of Professional Basketball Players. Her son, Jerome, plays for the Detroit Pistons. This is a national, non-profit organization, developed in 1996 to provide support to professional athletes, as well as to organize and sponsor various community fundraising activities ...Williams is also proud to announce that her son Jerome was recently elected Vice-President of the National Basketball Players Association.

On the new baby front...congratulations to Public Information Director, **DAVID WEAVER** and his wife Beth on the birth of their first child. Abigail Jordan was born on September 15 and weighed in at 5 lbs...**HELEN VALLONE**, Health and Human Services, and her husband Chris welcomed daughter Sofia Gabriella, born

on August 8 and weighing 7 lbs., 13 oz...**LORI GILLEN**, Silver Spring Regional Services Center, and her husband Bill announce the birth of Matthew Joseph, born on August 4 and weighing 8 lbs., 3 oz...and finally, proud, new grandfather, **BRUCE ROMER**, Chief Administrative Officer, announces the birth of his first grandchild, Alexander Collins, on August 24 in Chicago, IL. Alexander weighed in at 9 ½ lbs.

TINA CLARKE, African American Liaison Officer in the Office of the County Executive, is being honored in October at the annual banquet of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference/Maryland State Chapter with the Chapter's Leadership Award. Clarke was nominated for her outstanding service to the citizens of Montgomery County as the County Executive's liaison to the African American community.

Election Day Workers Needed

The Elections Office is seeking County employees to work at the Counting Center during the General Election on Tuesday, November 7.

Employees who choose the daytime shift, from 12:30 to 3 p.m., will be temporarily reassigned by the CAO from their regular job, working at their regular pay rate. Employees who wish to work the evening shift, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., will be compensated at the rate of \$10 per hour.

To qualify, employees must be registered voters in Montgomery County. Employees who are selected will be notified by the Elections Office shortly after the October 10 application deadline.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the form and forward it via interoffice mail to: Stuart Harvey, Board of Elections, 751 Twinbrook Parkway.

NAME _____ AGENCY _____

HOME ADDRESS _____
Street City Zip Code

TELEPHONE _____
(Home) (Office)

E-MAIL _____
(Home) (Office)

PARTY AFFILIATION _____

Please check below indicating when you can work:

General Election _____ day _____ evening

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN BY OCTOBER 10



MCCC member Isabel Moreau is seen smiling just below Bette Midler at the Corps Work 2000 National Conference in New York. Moreau was among 353 other corps members and program staff attending the conference. A MCCC crew led by program director Walter Wolfe attended the three-day work/training event.

Conservation Corps Members Participate in Corps Work 2000

A crew of workers from the Montgomery County Conservation Corps (MCCC), led by program director Walter Wolfe, participated in Corps Work 2000, hosted by the New York Restoration Project. The project, founded by Bette Midler in 1995, brought together corps members and program staff from around the country to work on the restoration of the Bronx River.

More than 5,000 hours of community service by conference participants were dedicated to the project. Six crews worked on various sections of the river to clear blockages, eliminate invasive plant species, remove graffiti, install jute

matting on shorelines and pull out debris. Another crew transformed an overgrown vacant lot into a riverside park. This crew also constructed a floating dock so the locals could access the river for the first time in 60 years. Some of the conference participants, including MCCC crew supervisor Ahmad Manraj, built four river skiffs in 48 hours.

The conference was organized by the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps (NASCC), which is located in Washington, D.C. and represents more than 100 service and conservation corps in the nation.

Turn Over A New Leaf This Fall

You'll find it all in the fall issue of the Montgomery County Guide to Recreation and Leisure. Join a class in Latin or salsa dance, guitar or pottery, tai chi or stained glass. The possibilities are limitless! There are classes for preschool, youth, teens, adults and seniors in the areas of fine arts, crafts, exercise and fitness, dance, music, physical



activities, wellness, personal development and special interest. There is also information on additional recreational activities for the whole family. Free copies of the guide are available at county libraries, as well as at regional service centers. Call 240-777-6900, or visit the website at: www.co.mo.md.us/rec.

OHR Notes

Office of Human Resources

Transfer Season

This year's Group Insurance Transfer Season will start on Monday, October 23 and end at 5 p.m. on Monday, November 13. Look for important group insurance materials to be mailed to your home in October.

Computer Training Calendar

The FY 2001 calendar of open enrollment computer classes is now available in OHR or from your department's training coordinator, and via the County's Intranet at <http://129.47.2.18>. Here's your chance to learn PC and Windows basics or improve your skills in Microsoft Windows applications, including Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Memo for Windows. Check the course listing and enroll on the automated training registration line at 240-777-5122.

New Employment Bulletin

To improve distribution of employment and promotional information, OHR is publishing a single bi-weekly *Employment Bulletin*. Positions open to all applicants will be listed at the front of the Bulletin, and positions open to employees only will be listed in a separate section at the back of the Bulletin. Outside applicants will not be able to apply for positions listed in the "employees only" section. County employees may also find job listings for "employees only" on the County's intranet site at <http://129.47.2.18>.

Blood Donations Needed – October 11

There is always someone in need of blood. Please help the Red Cross help those in need of the "gift of life" by scheduling an appointment to donate blood on October 11, 2000. Appointment times are from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and those who donate are eligible for up to three hours of administrative leave. The location for donations is the EOB Lobby Level Auditorium. To make your appointment, call Occupational Medical Services at 240-777-5155 or email humanres.marshb.

Waste Reduction Tip

The best cleaner for hardwood floors is iced tea!
It's less hazardous and reduces waste

'98 VW JETTA GLS – black, 4-dr., auto, AC, AM/FM cassette w/6 CD changer, sunroof, tilt steering, cruise, alarm, heated seats, power windows/locks. One owner. 28k miles, good condition. \$15,000/best offer. Call Elena, 301-346-9111.

'70 DATSUN 240Z – factory rebuilt by Nissan two years ago, has 4k miles. Gold, garaged, showroom condition, runs beautifully, was photographed for *Collectible Automobile* magazine. \$19,000/best offer. Call 301-384-9850 or 301-443-3099.

'88 TOYOTA CAMRY – 4-dr., auto., good cond. Md. inspected. 206k miles. \$2,000. Call Luz, 240-777-1958 or 301-330-5009.

'98 OLDSMOBILE INTRIGUE GL – 4-dr. sedan, silver w/gray leather interior, V6, AM/FM cassette & CD player, loaded, excellent condition. 36k miles. \$15,000/best offer. Call Tom, 301-657-0143 or 301-990-8257.

'96 HONDA GOLDWING SE – 2-tone red, 6 disc CD player, 3 travel bags, tool kit, fully loaded w/\$1,000 worth of extras. 13k miles. \$13,500. Call Gary Bishop, 301-881-4400 or 717-337-0116.

MATTRESS – Sealy queen size w/box spring and frame. \$150. Call 301-916-7019.

Backpage Bargains

County employees may submit ads, non-commercial only, with name and home and office phone number to Information Office, 4th floor, EOB. **Ads may appear one time only.** Deadline for the next issue is October 27.

FOR SALE – treadmill, records distance & calories, hardly used, \$150. Toddlers racecar bed w/mattress, \$100. Call 301-548-1558.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT – Cardio Glide, \$75. Flex 110 home gym, inc. new rubber bands, \$75. Ab Cruncher, \$25. All in great condition. Call Linda, 301-384-8906.

ROWING MACHINE – Avita 950 SL professional model. Excellent condition. Cost \$400, will sell for \$100. Call Eileen, 301-924-4330, eves.

FOR SALE – running boards for SUV or pick up truck, black. \$75. Call Grace, 240-777-7926.

CLARINET – B flat, Bundy-Black. \$200. Call Gayle, 240-777-7253.

TRUMPET – Yamaha, excellent condition, hardly used. \$250/best offer. Call 240-777-2906 or 301-294-2557, eves.

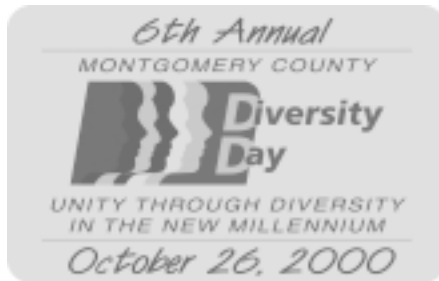
FOR SALE – sofa, lt. gold fabric, 96" long, excellent condition, \$125. Recliner, \$125. Wood console RCA TV, 25", \$150. White Westinghouse 5500 BTU 7.5 amp window AC, used one summer, \$150. Dark pine end tables, \$35. Large

computer desk, teak, \$75. Kenmore sewing machine w/attachments, \$100. Two-drawer file cabinet, \$10. Call Eileen, 240-777-6864 or 301-983-9865.

FOR SALE – Serta, extra firm, California long, twin bed w/box spring, frame and sheet set, \$150. 1956 swivel console RCA TV w/original tubes, \$300. Call 240-777-6418 or 301-933-2096, eves.

FREE – one page information fact sheet regarding filing claims and the terms of coverage for the BlueCross BlueShield Point of Service Plan. Happy to share the information I've gathered. Call Eric, 240-777-3719.

PACE OPPORTUNITY – the Police Abandoned Vehicle Section is seeking an individual, up to a grade 15, for a six-month, or longer, PACE assignment. Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs. and must pass a police criminal background check. If interested, contact Tom Nicewarner or Kate McLaughlin at 301-840-2389.



Montgomery County will celebrate its sixth annual Diversity Day on Thursday, October 26. This year's celebration will feature guest speakers, entertainment, arts and crafts and a variety of American, ethnic and international food selections in the EOB and COB cafeterias.

Volunteers are needed to help with registration and parking, and to assist vendors, VIPs and entertainers. Help is also needed on October 25 to set up for the event. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Marjorie Roher at 240-777-2723.

For more information, call 240-777-5110.

See what's happening on the Employee IntraNet
<http://129.47.2.18/>

Special Opportunity for County Employees

Beginning in October and continuing through March 1, 2001, County employees can enter the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's permanent exhibition at any time during museum hours simply by identifying themselves as a Montgomery County employee. It is normally necessary to call ahead and

reserve a time slot to tour this portion of the museum.

The museum is making this offer to employees and up to four of their guests. Located in Washington, D.C., the museum is adjacent to the Mall, just south of Independence Avenue, S.W., and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Check It Out!

Have you ever wondered who you should contact to report a burned out street lamp? Or how to get a permit for a block party? Or maybe you think a guardrail is needed at a certain location. Now you can go online and get the answers to these questions and much more. The Traffic Operation Section of the Department of Public Works and Transportation recently unveiled its new website: <http://www.dpwt.com/tos>.

The website includes information on, among other things: street lighting, temporary traffic control, special event applications, guardrail maintenance and installation and information about signs and traffic safety investigations.

Taste of Bethesda

Food and music festival. Saturday, October 7, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Norfolk, St. Elmo, Fairmont & Cordell Avenues, Bethesda

